

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
H	392



Town Lexington
 Address 6 Stetson Street
 Historic Name Edward Porter Merriam
 House _____
 Use: Present residential
 Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1894
 Source Lexington Minute Man, Mar. 16, 1894
 Style Colonial Revival/Queen Anne
 Architect John May of Magnolia ^(arch. + builder)
 Exterior wall fabric shingles
 Outbuildings garage

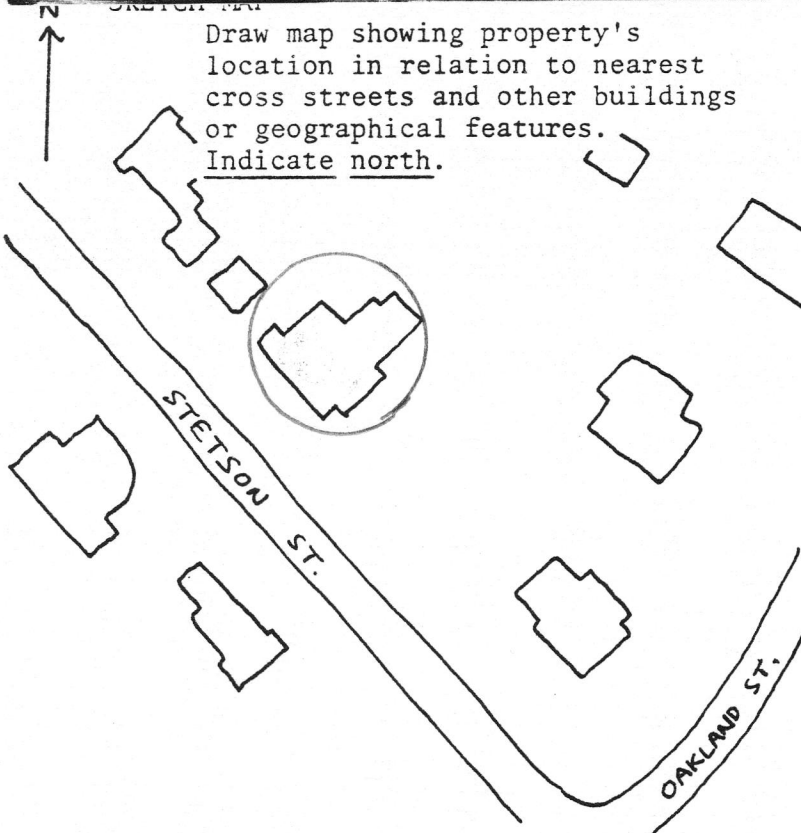
Major alterations (with dates) garage
(1946); piazza roofed over (1954)

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 0.4 acre (18,641')

Setting A prominent site near the top
of Meriam Hill on a residential street
developed primarily in the late nineteenth
century.

Draw map showing property's
 location in relation to nearest
 cross streets and other buildings
 or geographical features.
Indicate north.



Recorded by Anne Grady
 Organization Lexington Historical Commission
 Date March, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

One of the ample houses characteristic of Meriam Hill, this house with informal plan and picturesque massing is embellished with modillions at the eaves and an eyebrow window. There is a dentil course on the pedimented gable on the right side, and one window is finished with a cap which suggests in minimal terms a broken scroll pediment.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The marriage in 1894 of the offspring of two prominent families in Lexington was an event well-chronicled by the Lexington Minute Man. Edward Porter Merriam was the son of Matthew H. Merriam whose shoe findings factory on Oakland Street was "the principal manufacturing establishment in Lexington" (Hurd, I, p. 631). Alice Goodwin was the daughter of Charles C. Goodwin, wholesale druggist in Boston, whose large estate was opposite Stetson Street on Meriam Street. Evidently the father of the bride built them a house. The Lexington Minute Man (March 16, 1894) states, "Architect and builder John May of Magnolia was in Town Tuesday on business relative to the building of a house on Stetson Road for Mr. Chas. C. Goodwin. The contract was given to the DeVeau Bros." May, the newspaper continues, was building many houses in the "growing summer resort of Magnolia, Massachusetts."

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, pp. 245, 432. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Lexington Minute Man, March 16, 1894; *Sept. 7, 1894.*

1889 atlas

1906 atlas

Hurd, D. Hamilton, ed., History of Middlesex County, Massachusetts, Vol. I, (Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1890).